

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OSLO 03406 191713Z

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ACTION EUR-02

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E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: LABOR PARTY DAILY SAYS NEW COD WAR POSSIBLE

OSLO LABOR PARTY DAILY ARBEIDERBLADET CARRIED STORY
JULY 19 ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF A NEW COD WAR. FOLLOWING
ARE PERTINENT EXCERPTS:

THERE ARE STRONG INDICATIONS THAT THERE WILL BE A THIRD
COD WAR BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN AND ICELAND AFTER THE
ICELANDERS, AT THE BEGINNING OF THE WEEK, ASKED BRITISH
TRAWLERS TO LEAVE AN AREA WHERE, ACCORDING TO LAST
YEAR'S COD AGREEMENT, THEY ARE PERMITTED TO FISH
INSIDE ICELAND'S FIFTY-MILE LIMIT. THE AREA LIES
NORTHEAST OF THE NORTHERN PART OF ICELAND AND IS
PART OF THE AREA OPEN FOR BRITISH FISHING AT THIS
TIME OF YEAR.

THE ICELANDERS MAINTAIN, HOWEVER, THAT COD BREEDING
IS NOW GOING ON IN THE AREA AND FOR REASONS OF
CONSERVATION THEY HAVE ASKED BRITAIN TO STOP FISHING
THERE.

ACCORDING TO INFORMATION OBTAINED TODAY BY NORDLYS
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PAGE 02 OSLO 03406 191713Z

(LABOR PARTY DAILY IN TROMSO) FROM HULL, ENGLAND,

THE BRITISH HAVE FOR THE MOMENT REFUSED TO LEAVE
THE AREA UNTIL THEY ARE CONVINCED OF THE NEED TO
STOP FISHING TO PROTECT FISH RESOURCES. ON THURSDAY,
ICELAND SENT A GUNBOAT TO THE AREA TO WARN BRITISH
TRAWLERS. FOREIGN MINISTER AUGUSTSSON HAS ALSO INFORMED
THE BRITISH FOREIGN MINISTRY ON BEHALF OF THE
ICELANDIC GOVERNMENT.

THE ICELANDIC ARGUMENT FOR HALTING FISHING IN THE
BRITISH ZONE IS STILL SOMEWHAT UNCERTAIN, BUT IT
DOES SEEM CLEAR THAT THE ICELANDERS NOW HAVE A WAY
TO TEST THEIR STRENGTH IN THE JURISDICTION THEY DEMAND
OVER RESOURCES IN THEIR COASTAL WATERS.
VOTH

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